



Press Release

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Pennsylvania Crop Production

HARRISBURG -- Based on May 1 conditions, **Pennsylvania's** 2003 production of winter wheat is expected to be 15 percent below 2002. Hay stocks are estimated to be down 29 percent from a year ago, according to the Pennsylvania Agricultural Statistics Service.

Winter wheat harvested acreage is forecast at 160,000, which is 25,000 acres less than last year. Yield is forecast at 53 bushels per acre, 1 bushel per acre below last year's final yield of 54 bushels. The resulting production of 8,480,000 bushels is compared to the 2002 production of 9,990,000 bushels.

Total 2002 tobacco production for Pennsylvania was 6,815,000 pounds. Southern Maryland, Type 32, acres harvested were 1,300 with an average yield per acre of 1,850 pounds and a production of 2,405,000 pounds. The total value of the Type 32 crop was set at \$3.01 million. Pennsylvania, Type 41, acres harvested were 2,100 with an average yield of 2,100 pounds per acre and production of 4,410,000 pounds. The total value of the Type 41 crop was set at \$6.40 million.

Hay stocks on Pennsylvania farms as of May 1 totaled 390,000 tons, compared to 550,000 tons last May 1, and 1,200,000 tons May 1, 2001.

U.S. winter wheat production for 2003 is forecast at 1.56 billion bushels based on crop conditions as of May 1. This is up 37 percent from 2002. Acres to be harvested for grain is estimated at 36.4 million acres, up 23 percent from last season. Yield is forecast at 42.9 bushels per acre, 4.4 bushels per acre more than last year's yield.

Total 2002 U.S. tobacco production was 880.7 million pounds, 11 percent below the 2001 production. The total value of the tobacco crop was \$1.71 billion.

All hay stocks on U.S. farms as of May 1 totaled 22.2 million tons, 1 percent below the May 1, 2002 stocks but 5 percent above the stocks of May 1, 2001.